

MOTHS TO LOOK OUT FOR IN MARCH '20 from Mary Atkinson.

Double-striped Pug.

A common and widespread Pug with two and sometimes three generations in the south of Britain. It has a characteristic and noticeable white-edged, blackish double stripe across the chestnut-marked forewings and two reddish brown square marks near the edge. The forewings are rather narrow and quite pointed and the moth becomes smaller with later generations.



It overwinters as a pupa and the caterpillar eats many species of shrubs. This species is becoming more abundant and with an earlier first and stronger third, generation in the past fifty years.



Yellow Horned. A single generation moth, quite chunky and with conspicuous yellow-orange antennae. Hence the name. Although given as common, I rarely see it although it will come to light as well as being seen by day on a warm spring afternoon.

It overwinters as a pupa and the larvae feed on birch leaves.

Lunar Marbled Brown. This is another moth which is showing an increase in its distribution and an earlier spring emergence.

The dark brown crescent markings in the wide white or pale grey cross stripe give the name, but they don't always show! However the greyish overall appearance of this species distinguishes it from the later emerging Marbled Brown which has a much browner overall appearance (and never any lunule marks). I mention this because they may overlap in May.

The pupa overwinters just below the soil surface and the larvae eat oak leaves.

